

In re Application of:  
Staub, et al.

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**Group Art Unit: Unknown**

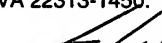
Examiner: Unknown

For: **METHOD FOR  
FABRICATING METALLIC  
BIT-LINE CONTACTS**

**MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on Jan. 05, 2004 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

01/05/04 Date  Signature

Dear Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:**

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 2, as follows:

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

**[0001]** This application is a continuation of co-pending PCT patent application No. PCT/EP02/04308, filed ~~October 24, 2002~~ April 18, 2002, which claims the benefit of German patent application serial number ~~101 19 673.6 DE~~ 101 19 873.6 DE, filed April